

CHEIFTEAN PUBLISHING CO.

A WEEK'S NEWS.

Cleaned by Telegraph and Mail

CONGRESSIONAL.
The Senate met on the 31st and only transacted business. The Speaker before the House a message from the President, transmitting the report of the Secretary of the Interior, and the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the report of the Secretary of the War.

WASHINGTON NOTES.
Mr. Beckner, Chairman of the Committee on Banking and Currency, was reported to be preparing a bill to introduce when Congress reconvenes. It will provide for the issuing of treasury notes without the legal tender quality, to take the place of banking notes going out of existence. The report of the measure is the same as that of the bill introduced by Mr. Beckner the previous session.

Mr. Blair, Chairman of the Committee on Coinage, Weights and Measures, is said to favor revising the dollar into standard, and thinks the leveling of the latter should not be stopped. He is also of the opinion that a mint coin should be established in the Philadelphia Mint.

The wife of General B. O'Connor died at Washington a few days since, after a lingering illness.

The Secretary of the Interior has ordered the Interior Department to proceed at once to investigate the claims of the Creek Indians arising from the recent election of a Chief, and make recommendations to the President.

It is said that Perry Belmont has got a splendid new house in Washington, and is having it fitted up in a manner to make Vanderbilt envious.

The sum of standard silver dollars for the week ended December 24 was \$116,000. The first five months of the present fiscal year the total internal collections were \$1,749,438, being \$1,345,971 less than the corresponding period last year.

It is a late item from the Missouri Pacific Railroad, at Abbeville, Kansas, where the night of the 26th, and his wife and little girl perished in the flames. Mr. Styles saved two of his children but in his efforts to save his wife and other child was badly burned and the third girl was also badly burned. The house had just been completed at a cost of \$10,000.

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A recent dispatch from Hannover, Germany, stated that Colonel Henry R. Nicholson killed his wife and committed suicide. The woman, known as Carrie, had left him, and he was pushed away from her.

A late wind storm destroyed a number of houses in Brooklyn, N. Y., and did much damage along the coast. At Pittsfield, Mass., it was also a very destructive storm.

A few nights since General Grant while stepping from a carriage at his residence, S. C., on Christmas, in which two persons were killed and five others wounded.

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act with the Executive Committee in debating what a "Professional Naturalist" is. Resolutions were adopted recognizing the great importance of a thorough knowledge of modern languages, especially French and German, to students of natural history.

THE WEST.
The large housing mill of George C. Tallman, at Cape Girardeau, Mo., burned recently. Loss, \$50,000; insurance, \$50,000. A RESCUING party of thirty-one persons went from Oursay, Colo., to the Virginian mines to take away the victims of the mine disaster of the day before, and while returning with the bodies on sleds a second snow slide came down and the party had a miraculous escape from being overwhelmed. The sleds containing four dead bodies, however, were carried two thousand feet down the mountain side, and then buried under a precipice five hundred feet high, where they must remain until spring. The party finally reached Oursay, nearly dead from exhaustion.

A school of snappers at Galatin, in the vicinity of Constantinople (Turkey), burned recently. Fifteen students perished, and the same number were missing. The directors of the school, a Frenchman and a Turk, were killed. It is stated that France is determined to enter into negotiations for peace with China until the French occupy Barmah.

It was reported that the French Government had telegraphed to Admiral Courbet, at Manila, to send his fleet to the Philippines. The admiral, however, was reported to be unable to do so, as his fleet was not ready for service.

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the war he was twice severely wounded and had much nervous trouble which affected him for years. His friends fear that should he recover from his present illness, he will be incapacitated for active service.

Two negroes were recently lynched at Brookville, La., for murder.

The Abilene (Tex.) state was halted the other night near the Colorado river by a heavy snow storm, with drawn reindeer and nine passengers, comprising a variety of troops, were robbed of \$400.

At Yazo City, La., the other night about two hundred armed men proceeded to the jail and despoiled the entrance. W. J. Rode, a resident, and was shot dead in his cell; Robert Swanson, Michael Parker and Richard Gibbs were lynched. The four men were charged with being principals in the murder of the Posey brothers and Jasper Nichols.

GENERAL.
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THE YEAR'S TRADE.

Commercial Condition of the United States and Foreign Trade of the United States.

The concluding work in December, which is the fullest of the year in mercantile and industrial circles, has proved an exception to the rule in 1880. Reports from leading trade centers show that the merchandise movement has been much slower than in the corresponding months of the year.

THE LIST OF FINANCIAL WEEKS.
The commercial week list of the year is a formidable one. The following table gives the total number of failures reported during each of the last five years.

UNITED STATES.
1875, 1876, 1877, 1878, 1879, 1880.
No. of failures fourth quarter. 1,145, 1,054, 2,002, 1,145, 1,054, 2,002.
No. of failures third quarter. 2,145, 2,054, 3,002, 2,145, 2,054, 3,002.

FOREIGN.
The year 1880 has been satisfactory to the iron and steel trades than its predecessor. The latter continued a prolonged depression, and the iron and steel industry in general has been much depressed.

The sanitary condition of Havana (Cuba) is reported to be improving. Only ten deaths from yellow fever for the week ended December 28. The cases were scattered among the population and not concentrated in the military hospitals.

The French Government has decided to prohibit the importation of American salt until the Chambers have pronounced upon the bill which the Minister of Commerce will introduce at the beginning of next session. The prohibition does not apply to the ports of Havre, Nantes and Bordeaux, where, however, arrivals are subjected to rigid scrutiny.

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THE HOUSE COMMITTEES.

Complete List of the Standing and Select Committees of the National House of Representatives.

AGRICULTURE.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

COMMERCE.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

EDUCATION.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

FINANCE.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

INDUSTRIES.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

LABOR.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

LANDS.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

NAVY.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

RAILROADS.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

REVENUE.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

WAR.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

WATERWAYS.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

WEATHER.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

WILDERNESS.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

WIND.—Messrs. Turner, Georgia, Davis, Mississippi, and others.

UNDER SHROUDS OF SNOW.

Twenty-seven lives lost and immense damage done to mining property in Colorado by avalanches of snow.

A special dispatch from Telluride, Colo., dated the 31st, via Montreal 29th, states that about noon on Monday a snow-slide came down the Marshall basin and carried off the shaft-house of the Mendota Mine, which at the time of the accident contained four men. Right after the explosion were killed outright. Four succeeded in digging themselves out, and these four subsequently rescued the two men who were in a badly injured condition.

As the telephone wires from the mine to the camp were in a damaged condition the news was not received in the camp until five o'clock that afternoon, and then only those few meagre details were given. A large number of men immediately left for the scene of the disaster. But as yet they have not been heard from.

It has been snowing for a week, and it is now four feet deep on the level. The present storm is the most extensive and damaging of any ever known in that region. A stage driver, who had made his way out of the surrounding country reports that twenty-seven men have lost their lives by snow-slides within the last few days, while the damage to mining property is enormous.

Two men were killed by a snow-slide at the Nevada mine, also at Telluride. The latest information from Ophir and Ames, neighboring towns, reports that the mail-carrier from Silverton, who was due on Friday, has not been heard from and he is supposed to have been lost and perished in making an attempt to force his way through the snow.

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PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

The funny man of the Louisville Courier-Journal is a woman.

The Boston Public Library is to receive \$50,000 from the estate of Arthur Schiller, notwithstanding there is a flaw in his will.

Will Carleton, the writer of farm ballads, is said to be worth \$150,000. There is no danger of his going "Over the Hills to the Poor House."

Mr. George A. Post, Representative in Congress from the Fifteenth Pennsylvania District, is but twenty-nine years of age, and is the youngest member of Congress.

Asa Barker, of Lynn, Mass., aided the other night. He was the least and front of the concert-giving Barker family of a master of a century ago. He hung himself in the woods while despondent.

Washington Irving once said to a lady: "Don't be anxious about the education of your daughters; they will do well enough in the soil and in the things; teach them one thing." "What is that, Mr. Irving?" she asked. "Teach them," he said, "to be easily pleased."

James Conner, of Chili, N. Y., and Miss Mary Clatterton, of Rochester, were married in a large school building recently. A large number of wedding presents were displayed in the window previous to the ceremony.

The wife of the late Charles C. Thorne, Jr., the actor, and an annuity of \$1,000 to Horace G. Browne, from whom Mrs. Thorne was divorced, has been put in the hands of the estate goes to Mrs. Thorne's children by both her marriages, and to her sister, Mrs. Emily Balch, and her children.

Colonel John Hay, who was President Lincoln's private secretary, testifies that the martyr-President put in a considerable territory is subject to great variations in its volume. A channel to carry its extreme discharge in floods must be many times larger than can ever be necessary for the ordinary flow of the stream.

There are a great many small towns which have for years gotten along without sewers, and have arch over natural water-courses running through the heart of the town, but are now impelled by the "sanitary revival" to construct sewers for removing household wastes. The first impulse is to utilize the covered streams to save the expense of constructing a few hundred feet of sewer.

How they proceed. It is better to spend a little more money and be safe, than to economize in first cost and spend ten times the saving in doctor's fees and undertaker's bills.

ARAB'S OPINION OF THE MAHDI.
The Constantinople correspondent of the Morning Post states that he has had the opportunity of talking at some length with a Ceylonese, who during the last few months had many and continuous opportunities of seeing and conferring with Arabi Pasha. This gentleman said: "The victory of the Mahdi would mean the end of the world as we know it. Arabi Pasha, who over and over again repeated to me that his influence was very great, and that he ought to be prepared to see him march triumphantly over Cairo."

Two Western people, an old man and two daughters, happening to be in Boston the other day, entered a store in the city. The first object to attract their attention was a display of clothing hanging on a rack. They were looking at the clothing when a man came in and looked at the clothing.

"What's that, that thing going up and down with so many in it?" asked one of the daughters. The old man gave the elevator a long, long look, and then he said: "That's a telephone. I've seen it before. Just as though I was foolish enough to pay \$15,000 for a second-hand telephone—the idea!"

A short time ago a London pawnbroker was aroused about one a. m. by a vigorous knocking at his door. He opened the door and found a man standing in the doorway. The man was looking at the clock and the man was looking at the clock.

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Brooks as Sewers.

When a natural water-course traverses a town, and its banks become uneven, the easiest way of getting rid of filth and house wastes is to throw them into the stream. Every man's instinctive impulse is to get rid of what annoys him, and not to mind how his neighbor will be affected. After awhile, when the water-course has become sufficiently nasty, the people come to a realizing sense of what they have brought upon themselves, and then they try to devise a remedy.

In this they begin usually at the wrong end. They look upon the stream as creating the nuisance, and don't consider that it is the source of the trouble. So they go to work and cover the stream up with a sewer. When the sewer is completed, the stream is still there, and don't consider that it is the source of the trouble.

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When a natural water-course serves for the drainage of the land all along its course, its banks can not be made water-tight without obstructing the natural progress of the water. A sewer, however, is a natural stream and of a sewer are so diverse that they can not be made to do the same for the same purpose.

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